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PRIVATE PRAYERS.

COMPILED BY THE  
REV. W. F. HOOK, M.A.

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*Price 2s.*

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# PRIVATE PRAYERS.

COMPILED BY THE

REV. WALTER FARQUHAR HOOK, M.A.

VICAR OF TRINITY PARISH, COVENTRY,  
AND CHAPLAIN IN ORDINARY TO HIS MAJESTY.

---

Be not rash with thy mouth, nor let thine heart be hasty  
to utter any thing before God.—*Eccles. v. 2.*

Quascunque sibi preces aliquis describit, non eis utatur,  
nisi prius eas cum instructoribus contulerit.

*Conc. Carthag. 3 Can. 23.*

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LONDON:

PRINTED FOR J. G. & F. RIVINGTON,

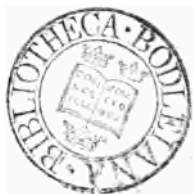
ST. PAUL'S CHURCH YARD,  
AND WATERLOO PLACE, PALL MALL.

1836.

119.



**LONDON:**  
**GILBERT & RIVINGTON, PRINTERS,**  
**ST. JOHN'S SQUARE.**



## PREFACE.

---

THE following Prayers are derived, almost exclusively, from ancient sources. The business of the compiler has chiefly been to adapt them for modern use, and the purposes of private devotion; in doing which he has endeavoured to adhere to the system so wisely and judiciously adopted by the venerable Prelates and Divines, who, in the reigns of Edward and Elizabeth, reduced the ancient services of the Church of England to our present forms of Morning and Evening Prayer. Commencing with

the Confession of Sins, and the Lord's Prayer, we proceed to the Praise of God, then to Intercession and Supplication, and after having resumed our Thanksgivings, we conclude with a Benediction.

There are many forms of private prayer now in circulation far better adapted than the following to the religious taste and feeling of the day. These are intended for those only who love to tread in the old paths, and to participate in the spirit of primitive devotion. And although to such persons the incomparable Manual of Bishop Andrews must be familiar, yet this can hardly be considered as superseding the necessity of the present publication, as the work of

Bishop Andrews is rather a directory than a form of a prayer.

For the importance of using a regular form of prayer at our private devotions, to which we may make what occasional additions we please, the reader is referred to Newman's parochial Sermons, vol. i. Sermon 20. The arguments there adduced appear to the writer unanswerable.

In the early days of Christianity there were cubacula, cells, or little chambers, provided in the Church, or within its consecrated precincts, for the purposes of private meditation and prayer<sup>1</sup>. As no such provision is made

<sup>1</sup> Bingham, viii. 5. §. 8.

in our own sanctuaries, and as the custom of resorting to church for private prayer has, unfortunately, in this country fallen into disuse, ever since the great rebellion, when so many pious usages were abolished, the following directions may be found useful :

“ If you were to use yourself, as far as you can, to pray always in the *same* place ; if you were to reserve that place for devotion, and not allow yourself to do any thing common in it ; if you were never to be there yourself but in times of devotion ; if any little room, or, if that cannot be, if any particular part of a room were thus used, this kind of consecration of it, as a place holy unto God, would have an effect upon your

mind, and dispose you to such temper as would very much assist your devotion. For by having a place thus sacred in your room, it would, in some measure, resemble a chapel, or house of God. This would dispose you to be always in the spirit of religion when there, and fill you with wise and holy thoughts when by yourself. Your own apartment would raise in your mind such sentiments as you have when you stand near an altar. And you would be afraid of thinking or doing any thing that was foolish, near that place of prayer and holy intercourse with God<sup>1</sup>."

In the present state of society the

<sup>1</sup> Law's Serious Call, chap. xiv.

observance of the ancient hours of prayer is not to be expected as a general rule. Some ancient forms for those hours are, however, appended, as, in his attendance upon the sick, when, from their sufferings, they are obliged to pray, not long, but often, the compiler has frequently found them to be very acceptable. The directions in the Apostolical Constitutions are as follows :  
“ Offer up your prayers in the morning, at the third hour, at the sixth, and at the ninth, and in the evening; in the morning returning thanks that the Lord hath sent you light, and brought you through the perils of the night; at the third hour, because at that hour the Lord received sentence of condemna-

tion from Pilate; at the sixth, because at that hour he was crucified; at the ninth, because at that hour all things were in commotion at the crucifixion of our Lord, as trembling at the bold attempt of the wicked Jews, and at the injury offered to their Master; in the evening, giving thanks that he has given thee the night to rest from thy daily labours<sup>1</sup>."

<sup>1</sup> Liber viii. cap. 34.





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## EJACULATIONS FOR THE CHAMBER.

---

“ Who blusheth not to hear the birds every morning, how sweetly and solemnly they sing their praises to God, and is so dull himself not to do the like?”

ST. AMBROS. *in Examer.* lib. v. c. 12.

---

GLORY be to thee, O God, for watching over me the night past: Lord, raise me up at the last day to life everlasting!

O thou, who formest the light, and bringest back the morning, causing thy sun to rise on the evil and the good: scatter the darkness of my ignorance by the knowledge of thy truth, that in thy light I may see light, and lift up the light of thy countenance upon me, the light of grace here, and the light of glory hereafter.

O thou, who hast foretold that thou wilt return to judgment in an hour that we are not aware of: grant me grace to watch and pray always, that whether thou shalt come at even, or at midnight, or at the cock-crowing, or in the morning, thou mayest find me in the number of those servants, who shall be blessed in watching for their Lord.

O thou, who very early in the morning, about the rising of the sun, wast pleased to leave thy empty tomb, and return again from the dead; raise me up, I pray thee, to walk in newness of life, by such daily exercises of repentance and virtue, as may keep me dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God, through thee.

## PRIVATE PRAYERS.

---

### MORNING PRAYER.

IN the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. *Amen.* Introduction.

Almighty and everlasting God, Creator and Governor The Confession.  
of all things, who hast made man, and hast given unto him a law, both naturally implanted and written, that he may live by the rules thereof as a reasonable being: who hast, also, when he hath sinned, given him a motive and encouragement to repent, even thine own goodness: look down, I beseech thee, on me thine unworthy servant, while

with a true penitent heart I confess

that thus (            ), and  
Here mention particulars. thus (            ), I have of-

fended against thy holy laws. If thou, Lord, shalt be extreme to mark what is done amiss, O Lord, who may abide it; but with thee there is propitiation. For thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, accept my repentance, and make it sincere: sanctify my body, soul, and spirit; examine my mind, and search out my conscience: take from me all evil imaginations, all impurity of thought, all inclinations to lust, all deformity of conception, all pride and hypocrisy; all falsehood, deceit, and irregular living; all covetousness, vain-glory, and sloth; all envy, hatred, and malice; all remembrance of injuries, all blasphemy, and every motion of flesh and spirit, which is contrary to the purity of thy will. And grant, O Lord, that I may

boldly and without blame,  
 with a pure heart and a The exclamation.  
 humble mind, without shame and confusion,  
 and with sanctified lips, call upon thee,  
 my God and heavenly Father, and say :  
 Our Father which art in heaven,  
 Hallowed be thy The Lord's Prayer.  
 name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done  
 in earth as it is in heaven. Give us  
 this day our daily bread. And forgive  
 us our trespasses as we forgive them  
 that trespass against us, and lead us not  
 into temptation, but deliver us from  
 evil : For thine is the kingdom, and the  
 power, and the glory, for ever and ever.  
*Amen.*

*Then say or sing,*

It is very meet, right, and  
 our bounden duty, to wor- The hymn.  
 ship the Father, the Son, and the Holy  
 Ghost ; the holy, blessed, and glorious  
 Trinity. It is meet, right, and our



bounden duty to bless thee, to worship thee, to glorify thee, at all times, and in all places; for thou art God ineffable, inconceivable, invisible, incomprehensible, from everlasting to everlasting, the same, thou, and thine only begotten Son, and Holy Spirit. Thou broughtest us out of nothing into being; and when by our disobedience we were fallen, thou didst raise us up again, that thou mightest bring us to heaven, and give us an inheritance in thy kingdom. For these and all other thy mercies, known and unknown, whether public or private, I give thanks unto thee, O Father, and thine only begotten Son, and Holy Spirit. I thank thee, Lord, that thou dost vouchsafe to receive this worship at my hands, seeing thou art encompassed with thousands of archangels, and ten thousands of angels, with cherubim and seraphim, who continu-

ally do cry, Holy, holy, holy, Lord  
God of hosts ; heaven and earth are full  
of thy glory ; hosanna in the highest !  
Blessed is he that cometh in the name  
of the Lord, hosanna in the highest !  
With these blessed Powers, O Father  
of mercies, I lift up my voice, and say,  
Holy art thou, most holy, thou, thine  
only begotten Son and Holy Spirit !  
Holy art thou, most Holy, and great is  
thy glory, who didst so love the world,  
that thou gavest thine only begotten  
Son, that whosoever believeth on him  
should not perish, but have ever-  
lasting life. For us men he became  
man, redeeming and saving us by his  
most precious blood. He descended  
into hell, and loosed the bonds of death ;  
and the third day he rose again from  
the dead, and became the first fruits of  
them that slept ; He ascended into hea-  
ven, and sat down at the right hand of

the Majesty on high, and thence he sendeth down good gifts unto men. He hath washed me and cleansed me by the baptism of water, and sanctified me by his grace through the gift of the Holy Spirit; he hath, moreover, instituted and ordained holy mysteries, whereby I may become a partaker of his most blessed body and blood, for the strengthening and refreshing of my inner man. Therefore do I render all praise, honour, thanksgiving, and adoration, to thee, O invisible Father, and to thy glorious Son, and to thy living, holy, life-giving Spirit, now, henceforth, and for evermore. *Amen.*

*Then say the following,*

FURTHERMORE, I beseech  
Intercession. thee, O Lord, to be mindful  
of thy Holy Catholic Church, especially  
that branch of it which is established in

this kingdom, forasmuch as it was purchased by the precious blood of thy Christ. Remember, Lord, all orthodox bishops, rightly dividing the word of truth, especially thy servant N. our bishop. Bless the parish to which I belong, and the clergy who minister in the same. Remember, Lord, those in thy holy Church who bring forth good fruit, are rich in good works, and forget not the poor; for their earthly things give them heavenly; for their temporal, eternal; for their corruptible, those which do not decay. Remember, O Lord, our gracious king; defend him with the shield of truth, and, of thy loving kindness, cover his head in the day of battle and danger; strengthen his arm, exalt his right hand, establish his kingdom, and give him the victory over all his enemies; incline his heart to be favourable and gracious to thy Church,

that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. Remember, Lord, all that are in power and authority ;—those that are good, preserve in goodness, and, of thy mercy, convert the wicked. Fill our garners with all manner of store, preserve our marriages in peace and love, feed the infants, instruct the youth, confirm the aged, strengthen the feeble minded, bring back those who are gone into the way of error, and unite them all to thine holy, catholic, and apostolic Church ; be present with those who travel by land or by water ; be a Husband to the widow, and a Father to the fatherless ; deliver those that are in captivity, and heal the sick ; remember all who stand in need of thy pity ; all who love, and all who hate me, and all who have desired my prayers, unworthy as I am to offer them ;—and

here, Lord, I especially  
 commend to thy fatherly  
 protection and care, (Here mention  
 such persons as  
 you think fit,  
 and add such  
 particular peti-  
 tions for them  
 as, according to  
 their several  
 circumstances,  
 you think proper.)  
 ). Do thou, O God, I  
 remember those whom I  
 have not remembered, for  
 thou knowest the age and  
 condition of them all, even  
 from their mother's womb: yea, Lord,  
 for thou art the Helper of the helpless,  
 the Hope of the hopeless, the Saviour of  
 them that are tempest-tost, the Haven  
 of the weary, the Physician of the sick.  
 Be thou all things to all men, for  
 thou knowest them all, their habita-  
 tions, and their several wants. For my-  
 self, Lord, I humbly ask a healthful  
 body, a clear understanding, and com-  
 petency of living according to my con-  
 dition: a sanctified and just, a charitable  
 and humble, a religious and contented  
 spirit, resolute and constant in holy

purposes, but inflexible to evil; this  
 Here mention particulars. day especially I implore  
 these spiritual blessings,  
 (                    ), and these temporal blessings (                    ): but with respect to  
 all I *say*, and teach me, Lord, to *feel*,  
 not my will, but thine be done. These  
 my prayers, praises, and thanksgivings,  
 petitions, supplications, and interces-  
 sions, I offer to thee, O heavenly Fa-  
 ther, through the merits and mediation  
 of my only Advocate and Saviour, thy  
 Son, our Lord, Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

The conclu-                    O LORD, hear my prayer,  
 sion.                    and let my cry come unto  
 thee. I bless thee, O Lord. And ren-  
 der thanks to thee, my God. May the  
 divine assistance remain with me for  
 ever. *Amen.*

O GOD, unto thy gracious mercy and

protection I humbly commit myself. O Lord, bless me, and keep me : O Lord, make thy face to shine upon me, and be gracious unto me : O Lord, lift up the light of thy countenance upon me, and give me peace both now and evermore. *Amen.*

*Rising from your knees, stand with humble reverence, and say :*

Blessed be the Holy and Undivided Trinity, now and for evermore. *Amen.*



## EVENING PRAYER.

---

“ When thou lookest upon the heavens, and beholdest the beauty of the stars, adore him that in his wisdom made them all for thee. When the day is ended, and the night approacheth, fall down and worship him who made both the day and the night, to give thee joy and rest.”—*ST. BASIL, Orat. in St. Julit.*

---

The Introduc-  
tion.

IN the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. *Amen.*

As the end of the day, even so the end of life is nigh at hand, therefore, Lord, remembering this, I beseech thee, that my end may be truly Christian, free from sin and shame, and if thou shalt think fit, free from pain.

The Confes-  
sion.

O LORD Jesus Christ,  
thou Son of the living God,

who takest away the sins of the world,  
who didst graciously remit to the two  
debtors what they owed thee, who to  
the woman that was a sinner didst give  
the pardon of her sins, and with the  
forgiveness of sins didst to the sick of  
the palsy grant also a cure of his dis-  
ease ; remit, pardon, and forgive, O  
God, the sins which I this day have  
committed, wittingly or un-  
wittingly, with knowledge Here enter  
into self-exa-  
mination.  
or through ignorance, which  
thy Spirit knoweth better than I know  
myself. And whereinsoever thy servant  
hath erred from thy commandments in  
word or deed, as being encompassed  
with flesh and blood, or as inhabiting  
this world of sin, or as seduced by the  
instigation of Satan, I pray and beseech  
thee of thine unspeakable love to man,  
to have him absolved. O Lord and  
Master, hear my prayer : thou that for-

gettest injuries, pardon my offences, and deliver me from eternal punishment, for thou art my God, even the God that canst shew mercy and save, and forgive sins. To thee, therefore, with the everlasting Father and quickening Spirit, is justly due all honour and glory, now and for ever, world without end.

*Amen.*

Lord have mercy upon me.

Christ have mercy upon me.

Lord have mercy upon me.

Our Father, which art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven: Give us this day our daily bread; And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us; And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

*Then say the following,*

It is very meet and right,  
holy and becoming, as well Hymn.  
as profitable to our souls, to sing praises,  
to give thanks, to make our humble  
confession, night and day, with heart  
and voice, to thee, who art from ever-  
lasting, O Lord God, Father Almighty,  
who didst create heaven and earth and  
all that is therein; who madest man in  
thine own image and didst put him  
into paradise; and when by his disobe-  
dience he had forfeited his claim to  
happiness, didst not abandon or despise  
him, but madest a way for him to es-  
cape destruction, through thine only  
begotten Son, our Lord, our God and  
Saviour, Jesus Christ. Wherefore, giv-  
ing thanks through him to thee, toge-  
ther with him and the Holy Ghost, I,

The Interces- thy unworthy servant, do  
sion. most earnestly beseech thee,

O thou Lover of mankind, to be mindful of the one Holy Catholic Church, which is spread over the face of the whole earth, and therein especially for that branch of it which is established in this kingdom. Send down into our hearts that peace which the world cannot give, and give us, too, peace in this world. O King of Peace, keep us in love and charity; be our God, for we have none other beside thee; we call upon thy name; grant unto our souls the life of righteousness, that the death of sin may not prevail against us, or against any of thy people. Visit, O Lord, and heal those that are sick, especially thy servants ( ); turn from them, and from me, all sickness and diseases; restore them to, and confirm them in, their strength. Raise up

those who have lingered under long and tedious indispositions, especially (            ). Release those that are in bonds; relieve those that are in necessity, feed the hungry, comfort the feeble-minded, bring back those that are gone astray, give light to them that are in darkness; raise up them that are fallen, fix the unstable. Bless, O Lord, the fruits of the earth, and preserve them uncorrupt for our use. Bless, O Lord, and crown the year with the riches of thy goodness; for the eyes of all wait upon thee, O Lord, and thou givest them meat in due season. O Thou who givest food to all flesh, fill our hearts with joy and gladness; give us always what is sufficient for the relief of our necessities, that we may abound in every good work, in Jesus Christ our Lord.

King of kings and Lord of lords, de-

fend thy servant our king, who rightly believes in thee and thy Christ, that as thou hast appointed him to reign over us here on earth, he may do it in peace, in power, and in justice. Subdue his enemies at home and abroad; lay hand on the sword and buckler, and stand up to help him; cover his head in the day of battle; and incline his heart to be favorable to thy holy, catholic, and apostolic Church, and to all Christian people, so that in his peace we may enjoy peace, and live quietly in godliness and honesty.

Bless, O Lord, I beseech thee, all the infants of the Church, bless all my relations, especially ( ), and all my friends and benefactors, especially ( ). And now, O Lord, I implore thee, by the mercies of Christ, to look graciously on me also, thy unworthy servant. Deliver me from all igno-

rance, and from every evil work. Grant that I may love thee with reverence, fear thee with affection, and tremble while I rejoice before the face of thy glory. Be merciful unto me, and hearken unto my prayers, and keep me stedfast, unblameable, and unproveable, that I may be holy in body, soul, and spirit, not having spot or wrinkle, or any such thing, but that I may be perfect, wanting nothing. O thou, my defender, my Almighty God, who acceptest not the persons of men, be thou the support of me, whom thou hast redeemed with the precious blood of thy Christ: be thou my refuge and succour, my protector and guardian, my impregnable wall, my bulwark and security: for none can pluck out of thine hand; there is no God like unto thee; in thee is my strong hope and consolation. Sanctify me by thy truth, for thy Word is truth. O



thou, who doest nothing out of partiality or favor, whom it is impossible to deceive, deliver me from all sickness and infirmity, from all sin, injury, and deceit, from fear of the enemy, from the arrow that flieth by day, and the peril that walketh in darkness; and vouchsafe to bring me to eternal life, which is in Christ, thine only-begotten Son, our Lord and Saviour, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be glory and adoration now and for ever; for thou art above all principality and power, might and dominion, and every name that is named not only in this world, but also in that which is to come; thousand thousands minister unto thee, and ten thousand times ten thousand stand before thee, the many-eyed cherubim and the six-winged seraphim, calling one to another, never ceasing from divine praises, singing, crying out,

Thanksgiv-  
ing.

and glorifying, lifting up their voices, and saying that triumphal and most holy hymn to thy great glory : Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth, heaven and earth are full of thy glory. It is thou, Lord, thou only, who canst make holy ; nevertheless, O Lord, with all those that hallow thee, accept our holy song, which we sing together with them, ascribing glory to the Father, to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. *Amen.*

O God, unto thy gracious  
mercy and protection I com-  
mit myself ; O Lord, bless me and keep  
me ; O Lord, make thy face to shine on  
me, and be gracious unto me ; O Lord,  
lift up the light of thy countenance upon  
me, and give me peace now and ever-  
more. *Amen.*

The bene-  
diction.

*Rising from your knees, say,*

Blessed be the holy and undivided  
Trinity now and evermore.

---

EJACULATIONS WHICH MAY BE USED  
JUST BEFORE GOING INTO BED, OR  
WHEN IN BED.

I return thee my humble and hearty thanks, O Lord God, for thy preservation of me the day past, and for all the blessings of my past life, for which all love and praise be unto thee. *Amen.*

Father, forgive me the sins of the day past, and of all the rest of my life; give me grace to repent of them, and resolution to forsake them, for the merits of Jesus thy beloved. *Amen.*

O merciful God, preserve me from all sin and danger this night; give me a convenient measure of refreshing sleep; and grant that I may rise in the morning more fit for thy service, for the sake of Jesus my Saviour. *Amen.*

O blessed God, the keeper of Israel, who neither slumberest nor sleepest, be pleased, in thy mercy, to watch over me this night; make me mindful of the time when I must lie down in the dust; and because I know neither the day nor the hour of my Master's coming, grant me grace that I may always live in such a state that I may never be afraid to die, but that whether I live I may live unto the Lord, or whether I die I may die unto the Lord, so that living or dying I may be thine, through Jesus Christ, thine only Son our Lord and Saviour. *Amen.*

Visit, I beseech thee, O Lord, this habitation, and drive from it all the snares of the enemy; let thy holy angels dwell therein, to preserve us in peace; and let thy blessing be upon us for ever, through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom and with whom all honour and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. *Amen.*

O thou, who when even was come, wast taken down from the cross and laid in the sepulchre, take from me and bury in thy sepulchre all my sins, covering with good works the evils I have done, and save me.

O thou, who didst inspire thy saints with songs in the night, and givest wholesome sleep to thy beloved; let thy protection and mercy be upon me, and preserve my lying down and rising up, from this time forth for evermore, and save me.

O thou, who at midnight didst rouse thy prophet David, and thine apostle Paul, to praise thee ; make me, on this my bed, to think with gladness upon thee, whose presence makes my darkness to be light : O lift up thy countenance upon me, that in thy light I may see light, even the light of thy truth, and the light of thy glory, and save me.

## A PRAYER FOR SUNDAYS.

---

O LORD GOD ALMIGHTY, who hast ordained holy festivals for the rejoicing of our souls, the Sabbath to commemorate thy creating love, and the Lord's Day to celebrate the mercies of redemption; what thoughts can we conceive, or what powers of speech can we attain unto, whereby to render the glory which is due unto thee, O King of kings, and God of all! who hast created the Heavenly Host, and endued them with understanding, and made every intelligent being; who hast compounded man of what is visible and invisible, and made him capable of all excellency, even thy divine image; that there might be none

of the works of thine hands which might not partake of thy grace; that the very dust may become happy in the contemplation of thy glory, and be enriched with those good things which angels enjoy; that we may confess and admire thee, the Creator, in all thy works, and with profound silence honour thee; for troops of angels and archangels ordained of old, the thrones long since established, the powers and principalities, the spirits of the just, the church of the first-born written in heaven, the many-eyed cherubim, and the six-winged seraphim, beings of exalted knowledge, yet trembling before thine invisible and incomprehensible Deity, turning to one another, and contemplating the invisible and incomprehensible vision, praise thee, extol thee, lift up their voices, and say the hymn to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, HOLY, HOLY, HOLY. For who



is able to show forth thy power, and tell of all thy praise ! Thou art indeed truly holy, God the Father, from whom all things derive their original ; and thine only-begotten Son, co-eternal, consubstantial : holy also is thy most holy, life-giving Spirit, proceeding from the Father and the Son ; wherefore all the Heavenly Hosts glorify thee, thine only-begotten Son and Holy Ghost, for thou art Trinity in Unity. But who is able to search out the depths of thy love towards mankind ? who, after we had transgressed thy commandment, didst suffer God the Word, thine only-begotten Son, the brightness of thy glory, to become the purchaser and disposer of our salvation ! who, according to thy good pleasure, took upon himself the ransom for us, was conceived by the Holy Ghost, and born of the Virgin Mary, and was made in all things like

unto us, sin only excepted. He took upon him the whole man; and, through his meritorious propitiation, opened for us the way to heaven. Wherefore, O Lord Jesu Christ, by the mercy which induced thee to give thyself a sacrifice for us, I implore thy pity towards mankind; being mindful of thy second glorious and dreadful appearance, when thou shalt sit exalted upon thy awful throne, encompassed with thousand thousands of angels, and a stream of fire shall break forth, and miserably destroy the wicked; when all men shall give an account of their works, their consciences accusing or excusing them; when every man's work shall be tried, as it were, by fire, and the wise and the learned be unable to offer any thing in self-defence; when terror, fear, and dread, shall fall on all the rational creation; when every mouth shall be stopped, and confusion

seize the foolish and ungodly; when vengeance without mercy shall overtake them that have shown no mercy. In that day turn not away thy face from us, and give not thine inheritance to eternal torments. Make us not heirs of darkness, where there is no light, nor alienate us from thy fellowship: O Lord, deny us not, nor say, I know you not; set us not at the left hand, with those who saw thee hungry, and fed thee not; sick, and visited thee not: but acknowledge us, and number us with those who have done thy will. For these things thy people, thine inheritance, make their supplications to thee, and through thee, to the Father. And now, O Lord God, Father Almighty, that I am about to enter thy gates with thanksgiving, and thy courts with praise, I implore thee, for the sake and through the merits of thy Blessed Son, to have mercy upon

me, and to have respect unto the sighs and groans of thy people. Regard not the impurity of my lips, nor the evil that is in my heart, but accept, as a sweet-smelling savour, the sacrifice we shall offer; and send down from thy holy habitation the Paraclete, thy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of life, who spake in the Law, the Prophets, and Apostles; who is everywhere present, and filleth all things; who, through his own power, worketh sanctification; that through the abundance of thy grace, we may be worthy to do unto thee this our bounden duty and service with sure confidence, that, whatever we ask, thou wilt give us. O thou, which art the Shepherd and Dispenser of divine knowledge, make glad, with the light of thy countenance, the wise messengers of glad tidings, the mysteries of the true faith, the bright stars that give light to thy people sitting

in darkness, the interpreters of the Divine law, and the guardians of the flock which was purchased by the blood of thine only-begotten Son. Pour upon us a never-failing stream of these doctrines, and make us worthy of the vocation wherewith we are called; preserve us from all heretical opinions, and from the pits and snares of those who fear not thee; let all unclean thoughts be far from us, in the name of Him who was born of a pure Virgin; let pride and high-mindedness be driven away by Him, who humbled himself for our sakes; cowardice, by Him who suffered in the flesh, and triumphed over the cross; let vain-glory be mortified by Him, who was beaten and scourged, and turned not away his face from them that despitefully spat upon him. May the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sins of the world, take from us all

envy, hatred, and malice ; may anger and wrath be removed from us, by Him who put to shame our enemy, the devil, at his crucifixion, and blotted out the hand-writing of our iniquities. Take from us all earthly thoughts, through Him who hath taken us up with him into heaven ; that, being thoroughly sanctified in body, soul, and spirit, we may render all glory to thee, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, the ever-blessed and glorious Trinity. *Amen.*

## OCCASIONAL PRAYERS.

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*A Prayer with which St. Augustine was accustomed to commence his Devotions.*

WHAT art thou, O my God? what art thou, I beseech thee, but my Lord and my God? For who is Lord besides our Lord? or who is God besides our God? O thou supreme, most powerful, most merciful, most just, most secret, most present, most mighty, most incomprehensible; most constant, though changing all things; immutable, though renewing all things; ever active, yet ever quiet; heaping up, yet needing nothing; creating, upholding, filling, protecting, nourishing, and perfecting all things.

Thou lovest, and yet art not transported;  
thou art jealous, and yet art void of fear;  
thou dost repent, and yet art free from  
sorrow; thou art angry, yet never un-  
quiet; thou takest what thou findest,  
but didst never lose any thing; thou art  
never poor, and yet thou seekest gain;  
never covetous, and yet exactest profit  
at our hands; we bestow largely upon  
thee, yet who hath any thing but of thy  
gift? Thou payest debts when thou  
owest nothing; thou forgivest debts, and  
yet thou lovest nothing. And what shall  
I say, O my God, my light, my life, my  
holy delight? or what can any man say  
when he speaketh of thee? Yet woe be  
to them that speak not of thee, but are  
silent in thy praise. For even they who  
speak most of thee, may be accounted  
to be but dumb. Have mercy upon me,  
O Lord, that I may speak unto thee,  
and praise thy name. *Amen.*



*A Prayer to be used before Public Worship.*

O thou that hearest prayer, let thy quiet dwell among us, and thy peace in our minds; that, laying aside all worldly thoughts and cares, we, thine unworthy servants, may so use the appointed means of sanctification, that with all those that have pleased thee from the beginning of the world, we may become partakers of those good things which thou hast prepared for them that love thee, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

*A Prayer to be used after Public Worship.*

O God, great and wonderful, look upon me thy servant, who have here presented myself before thee: stretch forth thine hand, thy powerful and merciful hand, and bless me; preserve me, that

at all times and in all places I may glorify thee, the only living and true God, the holy, blessed, and glorious Trinity, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, now, henceforth, and for evermore. *Amen.*

*A Private Prayer for an Officiating  
Minister.*

O Almighty God, who healest our souls and bodies; who didst, by the voice of thine only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, say unto Peter, Thou art Peter, and upon this rock will I build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it; and to thee will I give the keys of the kingdom of heaven; and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven, and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; may thy servants and handmaidens be absolved by the

mouth of the Holy Trinity, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost; and by the mouth of me, a sinner, thine unworthy servant. O Lord, our God, thou art he that takest away the sins of the world, accept the repentance of thy servants and hand-maidens; let the light of life shine upon them, and forgive them their sins, for thou art good and gracious, O Lord our God, long-suffering, and of great mercy: whatsoever we have sinned against thee, O Lord, in word, deed, or thought, pardon, release, and forget; for thou art the gracious lover of mankind. O Lord Jesu Christ, by thy cross and passion, thy precious death and burial, thy glorious resurrection and ascension, grant absolution to us all, and with us absolve all thy people. Amen, Lord, Amen.

*A Prayer to be used before the Study of  
Scripture.*

Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, give me, I beseech thee, a body undefiled, a pure heart, and a watchful mind; give me an unerring knowledge, and the powerful influences of thy Holy Spirit, that I may obtain, and assuredly enjoy, the truth, through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

*A Prayer for a Baptized Infant.*

O thou, who hast formerly said by thy prophets unto them that be initiated, wash ye, become clean; and hast appointed spiritual regeneration by thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord: look down

in mercy on this thy creature, who has been dedicated to thee by baptism, bless *him*, and sanctify *him*, and prepare *him*, that *he* may become worthy of thy spiritual gift, and of being gathered together with those that are saved, through Christ our Saviour, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, world without end. *Amen.*

*Prayers before Communion.*

ALMIGHTY LORD, who hast of thine infinite mercy vouchsafed to ordain this awful Sacrament for a perpetual memory of that blessed sacrifice which, once for all, thou didst make for us on the cross; grant me both such diligent remembrance and such due reverence to assist the holy celebration of so heavenly and wonderful a mystery, that I may be made worthy, by thy grace, to obtain

the virtue and fruits of the same, with all the benefits of thy precious death and passion, even the remission of all my sins, and the fulness of all thy graces: which I beg for thy only merits, who art my only Saviour, God from everlasting, and world without end.  
*Amen.*

O Lord, our God, the bread that came down from heaven is the life of the world. I have sinned against heaven and before thee, and am not worthy to partake of the immaculate mysteries. But, O merciful God, do thou make me worthy by thy grace, that I may receive thy holy body and precious blood, not to my condemnation, but for the remission of my sins, and eternal life. *Amen.*

O Almighty Lord, Father of mercies, and God of all comfort, bless, sanctify,

keep, strengthen, and confirm those who have bowed down their heads to thee ; turn them from every evil deed, and fit them for every good work ; and grant that they may without blame partake of these immaculate and life-giving mysteries for the remission of their sins and the communion of the Holy Spirit, through the grace, mercy, and loving-kindness of thine only begotten Son, with whom, together with thy holy, good, and quickening Spirit, blessed art thou, now, henceforth, and for ever.  
*Amen.*

O Lord God Almighty, that sittest between the cherubim, and art glorified by thy seraphim, who hast stretched out the heaven from the waters, and beautified it with a choir of stars ; who hast placed on high armies of incorporeal angels for thine eternal glory ; I bow

down myself both soul and body before thee, and humbly beseech thee to defend me from all the secret attacks of sin, and to make me glad with the divine influence of thine Holy Spirit; so that being filled with the knowledge of thee, I may worthily partake of the spotless body and precious blood of thine only begotten Son, our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ; thou of thy manifold, unsearchable goodness, forgiving all our sins, through the grace, mercy, and good will of thine only begotten Son, through whom and with whom, together with the Holy Ghost, all honour and glory be unto thee, world without end.  
*Amen.*

Merciful Saviour, at this blessed mystery, remove and banish from my mind all worldly cares, all vain imaginations, mean thoughts, errors and misconceits :



unite, I most humbly pray thee, the sundry powers and faculties thou hast given me, and point and direct them all to the present service. Govern now, O Lord, and bless my apprehension ; exalt my faith ; enlarge my affections and devotion ; and then seal to my soul thy remission, favour, and approbation, and make me welcome at thy feast. For thy flesh is meat indeed, and thy blood is drink indeed, the sufficient and only expiation of human guilt, O holy Jesus.  
*Amen.*

*For an officiating Priest.*

I THANK thee, O Lord, thou God of all power and might, for that thou hast vouchsafed to me the honour to stand at thy holy altar, and to implore thy mercy for my own sins, and for the errors of thy people : receive my prayer,

O God : make me worthy to offer thee petitions and supplications for thy people ; and enable me, whom thou hast placed in this ministry, by the power of thy Holy Spirit, to call upon thee unblameably and unproveably, with the testimony of a pure conscience, at all times and in all places ; that thou, when thou hearest me, mayest be favourable unto me, according to the greatness of thy loving-kindness : for thou, O God, art gracious and merciful, and the lover of mankind ; and to thee, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, I ascribe glory, now, henceforth, and for evermore. *Amen.*

*Thanksgivings after Communion.*

I GIVE thanks to thee, O Christ, my God, that thou hast vouchsafed to make me a partaker of thy body and blood, for

the remission of my sins, and eternal life. Keep me, I beseech thee, blameless, according to thy great goodness and love towards mankind. *Amen.*

I have now, O Christ my God, finished and perfected, according to my ability, the mystery of thy dispensation : for I have celebrated the memorial of thy death, I have seen the type of thy resurrection, I have been filled with thy endless life, I have enjoyed thy heavenly food, whereof vouchsafe, I beseech thee, to make me a partaker in the world to come. *Amen.*

I thank thee, O Lord, my God, for admitting me to partake of thy holy, precious, and heavenly mysteries, which thou hast given me for the benefit and sanctification, and healing of my body and soul. O thou who art the Lord of

all, grant that this my communion of the holy body and blood of thy Christ, may inspire me with faith that need not be ashamed, and with love without dissimulation; may fill me with wisdom, and heal my soul and body; may avert all evil from me, and enable me to perform thy commandments, through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Thou hast sanctified me, O Lord, by making me a partaker of the most holy body and precious blood of thine only begotten Son, our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Grant me the grace and gift of thy Holy Spirit, and keep me uncorrupt in the faith; lead me on to perfect adoption and redemption, and to the enjoyments which shall be hereafter, for thou art my sanctification and illumination, O God; and to thee, the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,

I render glory, now and for ever,  
throughout all ages, world without end.

*Amen.*

O Lord God Almighty, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hearest them that call upon thee, and knowest more-over the supplications of them that are silent; we thank thee that thou hast thought us worthy to partake of thy holy mysteries, which thou hast bestowed upon us, for the entire confirmation of those things we have rightly known, for the preservation of piety, and for the remission of our offences; for the name of thy Christ is called upon us, and we are joined to thee. O thou, who hast separated us from the communion of the ungodly, unite us with those who are consecrated to thee in holiness, confirm us in the truth by the assistance of thy Holy Spirit. Reveal to us those things

of which we are ignorant ; supply what is wanting ; strengthen us in what things we already know ; and finally gather us altogether in thy kingdom of glory, by our Lord Jesus Christ, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, now and ever. *Amen.*

## PENITENTIAL PRAYERS.

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O ETERNAL GOD, who art plenteous in mercy and compassion, who hast made manifest the constitution of the world by thine operations therein, and preservest the number of thine elect: show me the way of repentance, and accept my return and confession; beat down Satan under my feet; deliver me from the snare of the devil and the incursion of evil spirits; preserve me from all impure thoughts, all wicked words, and all unlawful deeds; forgive me all my sins, voluntary and involuntary; blot out the hand-writing that is against me, and write my name in the book of life: cleanse me from all filthiness of

flesh and spirit, and keep me always united to thy holy flock. Thou knowest my frame ; and who can boast that he hath a clean heart ? or who can say that he is pure from sin ? For we are all worthy of punishment. But since there is joy in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, grant that I may turn from every evil work, and constantly perform all that is good. O God, thou lover of mankind, do thou accept my petitions, restore to me the joy of thy salvation, and strengthen me with thy free Spirit, that I may never fall nor be shaken again, but may be worthy of thine adoption, and may obtain everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord ; by whom and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honour and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. *Amen.*



O Almighty and eternal God, Lord of the whole world, Creator and Governor of all things, look down, I beseech thee, upon me thy most unworthy servant; for thou desirest not the death of a sinner, but rather that he should turn from his evil way and live. O thou who didst accept the repentance of the Ninevites; who wouldest have all men to be saved, and to come to the knowledge of the truth; who, on account of his repentance, didst with the compassionate bowels of a Father, receive again the prodigal son that had spent his substance in riotous living; do thou now accept the repentance of me thy supplicant, for there is no man that sinneth not against thee, and if thou, Lord, wilt mark what is done amiss, who may abide it? But with thee there is mercy and propitiation. Restore me, therefore, to thy gracious favour, through

Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, world without end. *Amen.*

Almighty Father, who art of infinite goodness and power, I, who am a most vile sinner, and am condemned by the testimony of my own conscience, do approach thee and present myself in the presence of thy greatness, before the eyes of thy unspeakable Majesty, not to excuse but to accuse myself before thee. I confess, Lord, I confess the unrighteousness of my impiety, that thou mayest, for Christ's sake, forgive the wickedness of my sin. I confess that if thou dost not forgive, thou mayest punish me. I confess myself a criminal before thee, that while in words I endeavour to appease thee, in works I still offend against thee. I am sensible of my faults, and yet I delay my

amendment. Assist me, therefore, assist me, O thou ineffable goodness. Pardon me, pardon me, O thou adorable Trinity. Spare 'me, spare me, spare me, O thou God of mercy. Hear me, hear me, hear me, when in the words of the prodigal son I cry unto thee, and say, O Father, O eternal God, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee. I am no more worthy to be called thy son, make me as one of thy hired servants. To thee, O merciful Father, to thee I fly as the only refuge and haven, under the protection of Christ, that what is vile in me thou mayest vouchsafe to accept favourably in him, who livest and reignest for ever and ever. *Amen.*

## A PRAYER TO BE USED IN SICKNESS.

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BLESSED JESUS, I desire neither life nor death, but thy most holy will: thou art the thing, O Lord, that I look for: be it unto me according to thy good pleasure. If it be thy will that I should die, receive my spirit, and grant that in thee and with thee I may have everlasting rest. If it be thy will that I live any longer upon earth, give me grace to amend the rest of my life, and with good works to glorify thy holy name, who, with the Father and the Holy Ghost, livest and reignest ever one God, world without end. *Amen.*

*Thanksgiving on Recovery.*

Praise the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, praise his holy name; who hath saved thy life from destruction, and crowned thee with mercy and loving kindness. O Lord, my God, I cried unto thee, and thou hast healed me. Therefore will I sing of thy praise without ceasing, and I will pay my vows, and give thanks unto thee for ever.  
*Amen.*

*The three following Prayers are appended to our Office for THE VISITATION OF THE SICK, by the American Church.*

*A Prayer, which may be said by the Minister, in behalf of all present at the Visitation.*

O GOD, whose days are without end, and whose mercies cannot be numbered ; make us, we beseech thee, deeply sensible of the shortness and uncertainty of human life ; and let thy Holy Spirit lead us through this vale of misery in holiness and righteousness all the days of our lives ; that when we shall have served thee unto our generation, we may be gathered unto our fathers, having the testimony of a good conscience, the communion of the Catholic Church ; in the confidence of a certain faith ; in the

comfort of a reasonable, holy, and religious hope; in favour with thee, one God, and in perfect charity with all the world: all which we ask, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

*A Prayer, which may be said in case of sudden Surprise, and immediate Danger.*

O most gracious Father, we fly unto thee for succour in behalf of this thy servant, here lying under the sudden visitation of thy hand. If it be thy will, preserve his life, that there may be place for repentance: but if thou hast otherwise appointed, let thy mercy supply to him the want of the usual opportunity for trimming his lamp. Stir up in him such sorrow for sin, and such fervent love to thee, as may in a short time do the work of many days: that among

the praises which thy saints and holy angels shall sing to the honour of thy mercy through eternal ages, it may be to thy unspeakable glory, that thou hast redeemed the soul of this thy servant from eternal death, and made him partaker of the everlasting life, which is through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

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*A Thanksgiving for the beginning of a  
Recovery.*

Great and mighty God, who bringest down to the grave, and bringest up again; we bless thy wonderful goodness for having turned our heaviness into joy, and our mourning into gladness, by restoring this our brother to some degree of his former health. Blessed be thy name, that thou didst not forsake him in his sickness, but didst visit him with comforts from above; didst support



him in patience and submission to thy will ; and at last didst send him seasonable relief. Perfect, we beseech thee, this thy mercy towards him, and prosper the means that shall be used for his cure ; that being restored to health of body, vigour of mind, and cheerfulness of spirit, he may be able to go to thine house, and offer thee an oblation with great gladness ; and to bless thy holy name for all thy goodness towards him, through Jesus Christ our Saviour : to whom, with thee and the Holy Spirit, be all honour and glory, world without end. *Amen.*

## PRAYERS

FOR FASTING DAYS.

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MY GOD, let me never so rely upon any outward performances as to neglect the improvement of my mind, lest my fasting become an unprofitable labour, and my prayer a vain lip-service: the soul and body make the man, the spirit and discipline make the Christian. Grant that I may never so pretend to inward perfection, as to slight the outward observances of religion, lest my thoughts grow proud and fantastic, and all my arguments but a cloke for licentiousness: yea, the soul and the body make the man, the spirit and discipline make the Christian.

O my soul, when wilt thou understand

the gracious providence of the Lord, in chastening whom he loveth, and scourging every son whom he receiveth? gold is tried and refined in the fire, and the faithful man in the furnace of affliction.

O God, who by my great Master's dear example hast taught me what labours and sufferings heaven deserves, and that I am to take it by force; confound in me, I humbly beseech thee, the tenderness in my nature, which is averse to that discipline and hardship I ought to endure as a disciple and soldier of Jesus Christ; and forasmuch as flesh and blood cannot enter into the kingdom of heaven, enable me, by thy grace, to deny them even their just cravings and contentments, in order to the highest degrees of perfection here, and to help me in my way thither by self-denial and mortification; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reign-

eth with thee and the Holy Ghost, ever  
one God, world without end. *Amen.*

O, my Lord, who for my sake didst  
fast forty days and forty nights; deny  
me not, I beseech thee, thy grace, that  
my flesh may be subdued to the Spirit,  
and that I thereby may ever obey thy  
godly motions in righteousness and true  
holiness. Man shall not live by bread  
alone, but by every word that proceed-  
eth out of the mouth of God. O God,  
who didst severely punish our first pa-  
rents for eating the forbidden fruit, and  
hast so often recommended to me the  
duties of abstinence and fasting, grant,  
I beseech thee, that by observing dili-  
gently thy holy discipline, proposed to  
me in the laws and practice of thy  
Church, I may correct my levities, re-  
venge my excesses, and subdue my  
irregular appetites; may frustrate the

temptations of the enemy, secure my perseverance, and daily proceed to new degrees of virtue and devotion, till in the end of my life I receive the end of my labour, the salvation of my soul, through Jesus Christ, who, with thee and the Holy Ghost, liveth and reigneth ever one God, world without end.  
*Amen.*

Grant me grace, O God, to follow my Divine Master in his retirement and fasting; who needed not, as I do, the means of religion, but all that he did was for my example, that I might learn to flee the danger of occasions of sin, and take away the fuel of my passions; and so, by accustoming myself to contradict the appetite of sense, inure myself to obey the commands of reason. Now will I take a holy revenge on my past sins, and strive, for the time to

come, to bring forth fruits meet for repentance. *Amen.*

O Lord Jesu Christ, who by thy holy doctrine hath taught me to fast, to watch, and to pray ; and by thy blessed example, hath powerfully engaged me to follow thy steps ; vouchsafe, I beseech thee, by thy grace, so to mortify my body, withdrawing the fuel from my unruly passions, and reducing my immoderate sleep to the measure of necessary refreshment, that my mind may be better disposed for prayer and meditation ; and that, devoutly celebrating the fasts and festivals of thy Church, I may eternally rejoice with thee hereafter, in the kingdom of thy glory, where, with the Father and the Holy Ghost, thou livest and reignest ever world without end.  
*Amen.*

## DEVOTIONS

FOR THE ANCIENT HOURS OF PRAYER.

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*At Nine in the Morning.*

O THOU, who at the third hour of the day didst pour out from heaven upon thy apostles the miraculous gift of the Holy Ghost: take not away from me the comforts of that Spirit, but fill my heart with the riches of his grace.

O thou, who about this hour did, with invincible meekness and patience, stand before Pilate's tribunal, and suffer a robber to be released before thee; grant me, in all my sufferings for the testimony of thy truth and a good conscience, to consider and imitate thee, who

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didst endure such contradiction against thyself.

Lord, have mercy upon me.

Christ, have mercy upon me.

Lord, have mercy upon me.

Our Father, &c.

*At Twelve at Noon.*

O thou, who at the sixth hour of the sixth day of the week, didst nail the sins of the world with thy body to the cross; blot out the hand-writing of my sins, which is against me, and take it out of the way, and save me.

O thou, who at the same hour didst let down a great sheet from heaven, filled with all sorts of living creatures, figuring thereby to Peter thy universal church; grant that I, a sinner of the Gentiles, who have been received into



that mystical sheet, may with it, at length, be taken up into heaven.

Lord, have mercy upon me.

Christ, have mercy upon me.

Lord, have mercy upon me.

Our Father, &c.

*At Three Afternoon.*

O thou, who didst vouchsafe, about the ninth hour of the day, to taste death for the sins of every man; mortify in me my members which are upon the earth, even all things contrary to thy blessed will, that I, in like manner, may be crucified to the world.

O thou, who at this solemn time of prayer, didst magnify the power of thine Apostles, by the cure of the impotent man at the gate of the Temple; who didst also, at this hour, manifest thyself to Cornelius, as he was praying in his

own house; hear me, O Lord, in this and every hour, whether of public or private prayer; and grant the desires and petitions of thy servants, as thou knowest to be most expedient for me.

Lord, have mercy upon me.

Christ, have mercy upon me.

Lord, have mercy upon me.

Our Father, which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven: Give us this day our daily bread; And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive them that trespass against us; And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

THE END.







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